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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/784,308	02/16/2001	Masahiko Nishikawa	010169	2236
38834	7590	11/01/2006	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			VENT, JAMIE J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/784,308

Applicant(s)

NISHIKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Jamie Vent

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- TTG 10/30/06
- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-10, and 12-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8 and 11 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 9, 10, 12-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed August 10, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. On pages 6-8 applicant argues that Suga in view of Nagasaki et al in further view of Anderson fails to disclose the ability of a second producer to display images and other producers to store images. Suga discloses in Figure 10 a system wherein information is controlled and displayed and/or stored in the recording mediums as further discussed in Column 9 Lines 45+. The system provides the ability for the images to have various outputs depending on selection. Although, applicants points are understood the examiner can not agree and therefore the rejection is maintained.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-6 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Suga et al (US 6,449,426) discloses a digital camera wherein various writers are present for writing images to different areas of memory that are present as seen in Figure 10. Additionally, a reader for reading the raw image stored and producers must be present in order for the image to properly be stored and displayed as further seen in Figure 10 and described in Column 9 Lines 30+; however Suga et al fails to disclose a third writer for writing to a third area of memory with a greater access speed. Therefore, the prior art of record fails to disclose, suggest, or teach the following limitation:

**".. a third writer for writing to a third area of said memory the image for recording produced by said first producer; wherein an access speed to said memory is three time greater or more than a processing speed by each of said first producer and said second producer, and the image for recording produced by said first producer is applied to said second producer without passing through the memory."**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Suga et al (US 6,449,426) in view of Nagasaki et al (US 5,153,730) in further view of Anderson (US 5,933,137).

**[claims 7 & 10]**

In regard to Claims 7 and 10, discloses a digital camera comprising:

- a first producer for producing an image for recording based on the image for recording produced by said first producer (Figure 10 shows the first producer as the recording medium selector 64 which produces the recording image signal);
- a second and third producer for producing an image having a lower resolution by making resolution-reducing process on the main image signal for recording produced by said first producer (Figure 10 shows the display controller 4 which acts as the second producer of the image signal);
- outputter for outputting to a display monitor the image for display produced by the second producer recorder for recording to a recording medium (Figure 10 shows the display controller that controls what image is to be displayed and from what producer as well as a recording medium for storage of the pictures); however fails to disclose each of the main image for recording, the image for display and the size-reduced image for recording is an image corresponding to a YUV format, a resolution of the main image for recording is higher than the resolution of the image for display, the resolution of the image for display is higher than the resolution of the size-reduced image for recording, and each of the first process and the second process includes a resolution-reducing process.

Nagasaki et al discloses a digital still camera having multiple recording stages as seen in Figure 1. It is shown an image processing section 33 in Figure 1 that prepares the

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images for recording at various resolutions based on the size image of the recording as stated in Column 19 Lines 15+. The image for display is a size-reduced image of the recorded image that allows for the user to properly view a size-reduced image of images on the record medium. Anderson discloses in Figure 11a-11d thumbnails of images that are size-reduced of the main image as additionally disclosed in Column 14 Lines 10+. The ability to have a size-reduced image allows for the user to have a more effective view of images that are recorded. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a digital camera, as disclosed by Suga et al, and further incorporate an image corresponding to the recorded images, as disclosed by Nagasaki et al and additionally disclosed by Anderson et al.

**[claim 9]**

In regard to Claim 9, Suga et al discloses a digital camera wherein the raw image signal that each pixel has any one color component, and the display image signal and the recording image signal being both Yuv format. It is disclosed in Column 2 Lines 20-40 that the camera signal is a raw image signal; however fails to disclose that each pixel has any one color component, and display image signal and recording image signal being both Yuv format. It is well known the art that a raw image data signal will display various color components and furthermore that Yuv type signals is one of the many type of signals of a camera recording image signal. Therefore, the examiner takes official notice that it is well known that a recording image signal is a Yuv type signal.

**[claims 12 & 13]**

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In regard to Claims 12 and 13, Suga et al discloses a digital camera wherein said second producer carries out a producing process in parallel with a producing process of said first producer, and said third producer carries out a producing process after each of said first producer and said second producer has carried out the producing process (Column 9 lines 45+ describes the producing of the information onto the mediums wherein the producers have the ability to complete functions in parallel.)

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

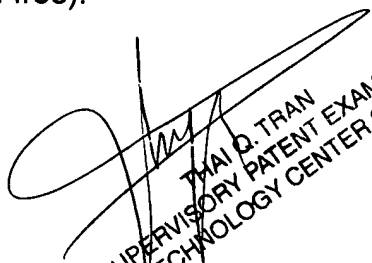
**Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 571-272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jamie Vent



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